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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/786,877 | 03/12/2001 | Hiroaki Irie | 10873.642USW | 7987 |
| 53148 | 7590 | 03/09/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER & LARSON P.C. | | | TRAN, THANG V | |
| P.O. BOX 2902-0902 | | | ART UNIT | |
| MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402 | | | PAPER NUMBER | |
| | | | 2653 | |

DATE MAILED: 03/09/2006

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| APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|

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| EXAMINER |
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| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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20060307

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents**Inventorship**


1. In view of the papers filed 03/21/05, the inventorship in this nonprovisional application has been changed by the deletion of the Yoshihisa Fukushima.

The application will be forwarded to the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) for issuance of a corrected filing receipt, and correction of Office records to reflect the inventorship as corrected.

Prior Art

2. The prior art (US 6,973,015) submitted on 01/03/06 has been received and placed in the file, but will not be considered by the Office since it does not comply with section 1.97 or 1.98 under 37 CFR.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thang V. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7595. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:30AM-6:00PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nguyen Hoa can be reached on (571) 272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Thang V. Tran
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2653